



ER&T Opportunity for Saudi Women

New fellowship will allow a select group to conduct post-doctoral research at one of the world's leading research universities.

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A Global Quest for Sustainability

CEO: Ingenuity, collaboration critical

Emphasizing the “Three A’s” of energy at the 10th Science and Technology in Society Forum in Kyoto, Japan, Saudi Aramco president and CEO Khalid A. Al-Falih says technology and collaboration will play key roles in achieving energy sustainability for generations to come.

Continued on page 3



Khurais: Strong in Safety

A team of young employees in Khurais, demonstrate proper techniques for securing a highline rescue rope at this week's Executive Management Safety Review held in Khurais.

Cover Story

- ▶ Having one of the youngest work forces in Saudi Aramco with 60 percent of the employees younger than 30, Khurais has posted an impressive safety record.
- ▶ In 2013, there have been no fatalities, lost time injuries, off duty injuries, motor vehicle accidents or fire incidents in Khurais.
- ▶ In addition to a solid safety record, employees at Khurais have introduced a number of actions that have resulted in significant savings for Saudi Aramco.

[See more on page 5](#)

Photo: Ahmed Al-Thani/MPD



Making the Delivery

Saudi Aramco's various departments, divisions and organizations pull together to coordinate the massive job of meeting the Kingdom's needs during Hajj.



See story on pages 6-8

ER&T program gives Saudi women research opportunities

In line with Saudi Aramco's corporate objectives and outreach strategy to foster the research environment and enhance the participation of women in the Kingdom's economy, Employee Relations and Training (ER&T) has launched a new signature program that allows a select group of the most accomplished Saudi women in the academic field an opportunity to conduct post-doctoral research at one of the world's leading research universities.

The program, which is called the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Fellowship for Saudi Women, has initially placed five highly qualified Saudi women who are Ph.D. holders in science disciplines in research programs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the U.S. The women — two professors from the King Abdulaziz University and two professors from University of Dammam — will spend one year at MIT conducting research full time with the research center's faculty. The prestigious fellowship is designed to be awarded only to the most qualified applicants on a highly selective basis.

The distinguished fellows recently met with Huda Al-Ghosen, executive director of ER&T, along with Zaki Al-Musharraf, acting general manager of Training & Development, Jamil Al-Dandany, director of the Educational Partnerships Department, and program manager Suha Al-Behaisi of the University Relations Division.

"Recognition of the importance of training in scientific research and the acknowledgement of the significant body of knowledge that research brings to fellowship programs provides the impetus behind the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Fellowship for Saudi Women Program," Al-Ghosen said.

The program's selected fellows expressed their sincere appreciation to Saudi Aramco for its efforts toward expanding opportunities for education and career development in the Kingdom. The five fellows are: Zayna Al-Husseini, Ph.D. in chemical engineering, Research and Development Center, Saudi Aramco; Sumayah Al-Sulaiman, Ph.D. in



Photo: Yara Ziyad/MPD

Huda M. Al-Ghosen, center, and Jamil Dandany, right, listen as several of the Saudi Aramco-MIT fellows introduce themselves and explain the process their universities followed after they were notified they had been chosen for the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Fellowships for Saudi Women Program.

"This is the chance of a lifetime to gain experience from a prestigious university in the path I am passionate about."

— Sanaa Al-Attas,
Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun fellow

architecture, University of Dammam; Jawaher Al-Ghamdi, Ph.D. in physical chemistry, University of Dammam; Wajood Diery, Ph.D. physics, King Abdulaziz University; and Sanaa Al-Attas, Ph.D. in virology, King Abdulaziz University.

"I am grateful to the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Fellowship Program for the opportunity to conduct research at MIT," said Al-Sulaiman from the University of Dam-

am. "I am excited to be researching contemporary architecture of Saudi Arabia."

"There are opportunities that seldom arise in our lives, which we know will change our perspective forever," noted Diery from King Abdulaziz University.

"I am certain that the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Program for Saudi women is one of them."

"I am really honored to be one of the candidates," said Al-Ghamdi from University of Dammam. "I have great enthusiasm to pursue my post-doctoral studies at a world-class institution. I am optimistic that this program will start an extraordinary era of prosperity — not just into each scientist's life or their universities but also to our country's

status in the world. I would like to thank Saudi Aramco and all the dynamic people working hard to make this dream come true."

"This is the chance of a lifetime to have the opportunity to gain experience from a prestigious university in the path I am passionate about," said Al-Attas from King Abdulaziz University's Biological Sciences Department. "I hope to return with a success story that is inspiring to those who will follow in my footsteps."

Through its various training, educational, and outreach programs Saudi Aramco continues to fulfill its commitment of playing a major role in enriching education in the Kingdom. As part of that commitment, the Saudi Aramco-MIT Ibn Khaldun Program will create world-class research opportunities that bode well for the development of the Kingdom's knowledge society, its economy and its future.

Build skills and advance your career through internal mobility

The Staffing Services Department, Job Posting Unit, offers all eligible employees exciting opportunities to build new skills, progress their careers and to broaden their knowledge of Saudi Aramco businesses.

The Staffing Services Department is launching a six-month pilot program across the Industrial Relations Business Line to encourage more employees to apply for new challenges.

The pilot program will encompass the following changes:

- A minimum of three years in their current grade code.
- Employees on full-time development programs, such as PDPs and ADPs, will be eligible to participate upon completion of their programs.
- The introduction of a 90-day probation period prior to finalizing the transfer. Employee Relations and Training will

conduct an education and awareness campaign through the month of October to provide potential applicants and their supervisors with the information they need to participate.

Details of all available vacant job posts can be found at <https://myhome.aramco.com.sa/irjportal>.

For more information about this pilot program, call Khalid Almogbel, supervisor of the Job Posting Unit, at 874-9225.

OPEC Basket Weekly Price trend for the Past five weeks:

Friday, September 6, 2013 — **\$111.33**
Friday, September 13, 2013 — **\$109.95**
Friday, September 20, 2013 — **\$107.94**
Friday, September 27, 2013 — **\$106.33**
Friday, October 4, 2013 — **\$105.98**

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Your Voice Eating healthy during 'Id

During the 'Id, many Muslims slaughter sheep and tend to consume a lot of red meat, fat, starch, sweets and organ meats. This consumption causes health problems during and after 'Id days such as indigestion and heart burn, in addition to health problems due to the high intake of fat, cholesterol and calories.

Consuming lean meat in moderation (4 to 5 ounces or 120 to 150 grams of cooked meat at a meal) is recommended, and consuming fatty or organ meats should be avoided.

The following guidelines will help adopting healthy eating habits during the 'Id days:

■ Eating healthy food in moderate amounts rather than large meals will give the digestive system a chance to function normally during the 'Id days.

■ Continue consuming more fluids and fiber rich foods such as whole

grains, cereals, fresh fruits, vegetables and legumes to help you avoid constipation.

■ Reduce consumption of sweets, sugary drinks, sweetened juices, soda, fatty and salty foods, and caffeine containing beverages such as coffee, tea and cola.

■ Replace rich sweets with fresh fruits and consume sweets in small portions.

■ Few dates before the 'Id prayer are recommended and then a light breakfast, consisting of whole-wheat bread, low fat milk, low fat cheese or labnah and a piece of fruit are strongly recommended.

■ Lunch and dinner meals may include a vegetable or grain soup, lean meat or chicken or grilled fish, one cup of steamed rice, and green salad or steamed vegetables. Begin and end the meal with a piece of fresh fruit.

Tips on Consuming Sweets:

■ Light and healthy sweets made with fresh fruits or low-fat milk or nonfat milk — and with fewer contents of oil and sugar — are recommended.

■ It is better to consume sweets such as custard or pudding in moderation and



**Dr. Basem Futa,
Dhahran**
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between meals.

■ Prepare the sweets with whole-wheat flour and fruits rather than white flour, sugar, full cream milk and butter. Replace butter with a little healthy oil and add apple sauce to give the sweets a soft texture.

Other Healthy Tips:

■ Avoid smoking (active and passive) and make your home smoke free.

■ Avoid excessive intake of caffeine containing beverages.

■ Walk for 30 to 45 minutes.

■ Consume only safe foods and practice hand washing with water and soap more often.

■ Practice traffic safety rules.

■ Instruct your children to avoid risky games.

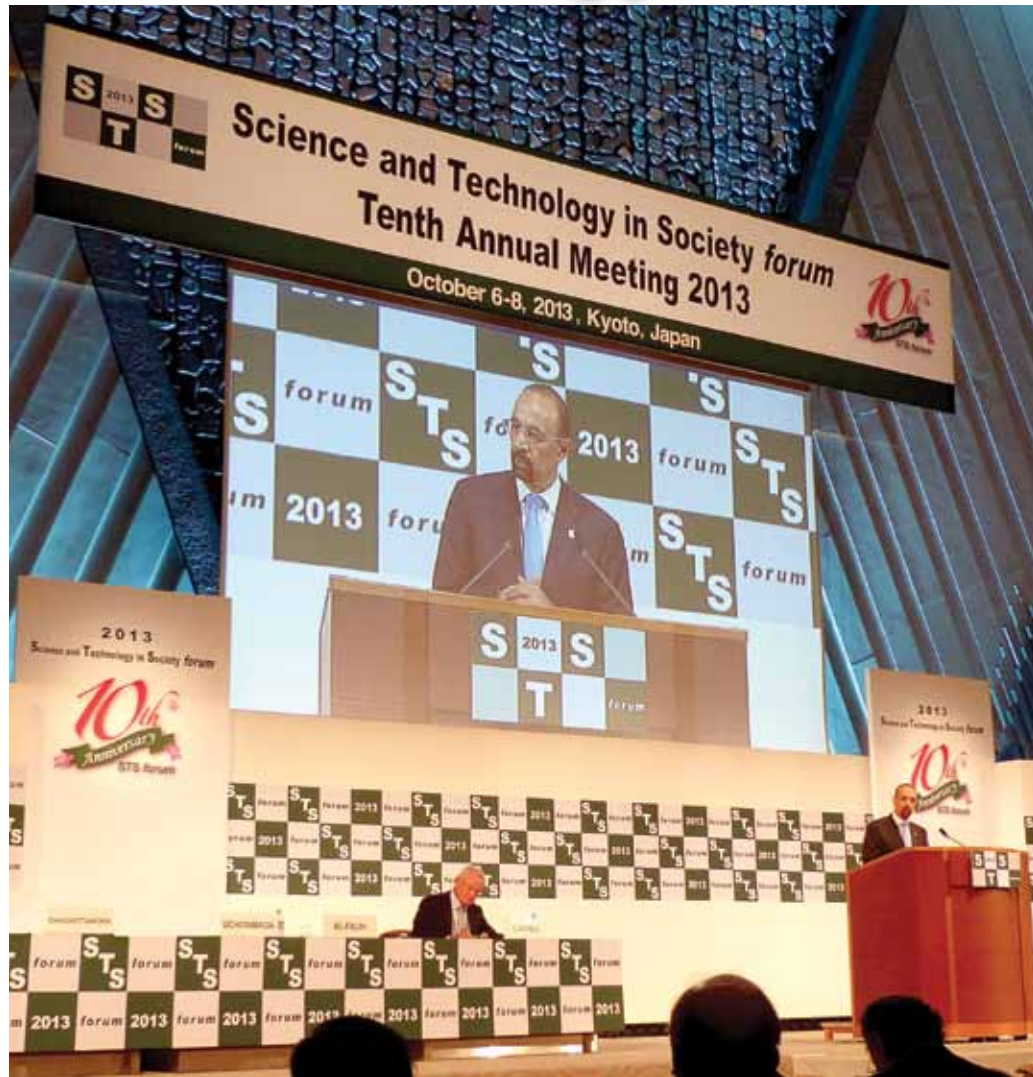
■ Protect the environment, avoid food waste and recycle aluminum, glass and plastic.

Your Voice reflects the thoughts and opinions of the writer and not necessarily those of the publication.

“I am a firm believer in collaborative research throughout the industry, crossing disciplinary, organizational and national boundaries.”

— Khalid A. Al-Falih, president and CEO

CEO: Technology, collaboration key to energy future



■ Khalid A. Al-Falih speaks in Kyoto during the 10th Science and Technology in Society Forum held Oct. 6 in Kyoto, Japan.

KYOTO, Japan — Saudi Aramco is committed to playing its critical role in the global energy scene for generations to come, but it will take the ingenuity and hard work of scientists, researchers and engineers worldwide to meet increasing energy demand for a growing population and to ensure economic prosperity for all.

That was the message Khalid A. Al-Falih, president and CEO of Saudi Aramco, brought to the 2013 Science and Technology in Society (STS) Forum held Oct. 6 in Kyoto, Japan. The STS, which celebrated its 10th anniversary with the session, is one of the world's most respected conventions in the field of science and technology. Saudi Aramco was one of the lead sponsors of this year's event.

“I am a firm believer in collaborative research throughout the industry, crossing disciplinary, organizational and national boundaries,” Al-Falih said. “We are extending our hand to you in this spirit. Join us on a quest to enable billions of human beings to access the adequate, affordable and acceptable energy to which you and I are accustomed.”

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe inaugurated the opening session with a speech, and Al-Falih delivered his remarks during the next session on Energy and the Environment.

In his remarks, Al-Falih re-emphasized the company's commitment to ensuring a reliable supply of clean energy to help

meet demand worldwide, a goal that will be best met by achieving an optimal energy mix that balances what he referred to as the “Three A's” of adequacy, affordability and acceptability, noting that the use of technology plays a critical role in achieving all three.

“We will need, in my view, a stable, secure and diverse supply of energy from all sources, with oil and gas at the core, complemented by coal, nuclear, hydro and a gradually increasing role for renewables,” he said. “But each of these essential energy sources has hurdles that only the scientific community can overcome.”

Al-Falih noted that the use of technology applies to the “Three A's” and pointed out some of the efforts Saudi Aramco is undertaking as examples:

■ Adequacy to extract more of the world's hydrocarbon resources.

■ Affordability through the development of cleaner, synergistic fuel-engine systems with substantially higher mileage efficiency.

■ Acceptability through the development of a broad-based, long-term carbon-management program targeting both fixed and mobile sources of carbon emissions.

The STS forum, founded by Koji Omi, Japan's former finance minister, was attended by about 1,000 business leaders, scientific researchers, scientists, educators and other officials from more than 100 countries.

Global Logistics Division launches new website

JEFF McCOSHEN

DHAHRAN — A dynamic new website officially launched this month by the Global Logistics Division (GLD) will give employees of Saudi Aramco easier access to enhanced services on all matters pertaining to GLD Functions and Services.

Responsible for the logistics of both company materials and personnel needs, GLD plays a vital role within the company with operational functions involving the air and marine shipment, employee shipment and Global Travel Services, as well as the support functions of air and marine traffic planning and customs services.

The site, unveiled Oct. 1, offers an updated version of the original ShareK page and was redesigned to better serve the business needs of company departments in finding information required to plan their operations. Meanwhile, employees, both current and new hires, will appreciate the details of which services they are personally entitled to utilize.

Benefits of the new website include:

Material Shipments: The site provides detailed information on customs requirements, permits and forms for importing and exporting all company materials,

shipping procedures and estimated times, packing information and automated tracking services, among other details.

Personal Effects: The site provides the requirements, procedures and entitlements for employees to ship personal goods, both into and out of Saudi Arabia. Freight forwarder contacts and work permit requirements needed to ship to certain countries are also available.

Global Travel Services (GTS): While the site provides full details on travel policy, entitlements and approval procedures, it also has the addition of new content such as embassy links, baggage allowance, visa requirements, health issues, currency converters, Web links to airlines and the latest Corporate Discount Directory where employees can access specially negotiated prices with hotels,

airlines and car rental companies.

“This is new, fresh and easier to use and will be a great tool for all employees to find the information they need, particularly regarding Global Travel and the discounts available, as well as the employee shipments,” said Lee Kirk, who oversaw the website improvement project as part of a 2013 Business Initiative.

MLD manager Mohammed H. Al-Belushi says that in addition to

better serving the needs of Saudi Aramco employees by having information and services available in a single, user-friendly location, the new website will also prove beneficial for GLD employees as the time saved from not having to respond to as many phone calls and emails from employees will enable the GLD staff to dedicate more time to performing their main duties.

Al-Belushi said GLD is already working on increasing awareness of the site by conducting a promotional campaign through the Travel Show and the Corporate Discount Directory launch.

The website improvement team was able to complete the assignment with no external cost, by working on this internally, thanks to an abundance of support that was provided by the IT Web support team led by Abdullah Humaidy. Additional support was also provided by the Materials Planning and Support Division.

Countless man hours were dedicated by the GLD group to create and test new pages to give the website a professional look.

The site can be accessed at https://sharek.aramco.com.sa/orgs/30001956/30001963/Pages/GLD_Home.aspx.



■ The Global Logistics Division recently launched a new website that will give Saudi Aramco employees easier access to GLD functions and services.

KFUPM: Celebrating our past, shaping our future

ADIL AL-SADIQ

DHAHRAN — Recognizing its rich and long history with King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Saudi Aramco sponsored and participated in the closing symposium held as part of the institution's 50th anniversary on Oct. 2.

Amin H. Nasser, senior vice president of Upstream at Saudi Aramco, congratulated KFUPM on its Golden Jubilee celebration, describing the anniversary as a historical event and highlighting the importance of partnership between industry and higher education institutions in the Kingdom.

Achievements of the Past and Challenges of the Future

HRH Prince Saud ibn Nayif ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Governor of the Eastern Province, inaugurated the closing symposium of the celebrations on Oct. 2 under the theme "KFUPM: A Past with Achievements, a Present with Excellence and a Future with a Global Impact."

The event included a documentary, after which Dr. Muhammad Sa'd Al-Homood, the KFUPM vice rector for Academic Affairs and chairman of the KFUPM event organizing committee, spoke about the achievements of the past, the importance of improving the present and exploring the future. This could be attained, he said, through highlighting KFUPM's role in the Kingdom's developmental progress, celebrating its achievements with a view to the continuation of its path of success, publicizing its progress and enhancing its image, strengthening its personnel and graduates' relationship with society and documenting its progress.

An Edifice of Excellence and Improvement

KFUPM Rector Dr. Khalid ibn Saleh Al-Sultan spoke about KFUPM's growth, development, leadership and excellence in academics, research and in social responsibility over the past 50 years, noting it has taken upon itself "to be always in the front position, to be always an example for everybody to follow, and to maintain excellence and improvement."

"During the period of this celebration," he said, "KFUPM has endeavored to develop its second strategic plan and draft it in a way that draws the future of KFUPM, taking it into a new era and vast horizons of improvement and innovation."

Al-Sultan emphasized that KFUPM has developed, activated and kick-started a number of initiatives and developmental programs, including:

- Emphasizing energy areas and achieving excellence in them on a global level.
- Launching the second phase of the Dhahran Techno Valley.
- Building a central laboratory complex, as well as educational and research laboratories.
- Converting a number of patents into industrial products and marketing them commercially.
- Developing its academic departments so the majority of them join the world's best 50 (academic) departments.
- Increasing the intake of post-graduate students to account for 20 percent of the total KFUPM students.

Also included are programs to initiate relationships and communicate with graduates, hosting annual forums to showcase the students' scientific, cultural and intellectual innovations.

Achievement of Comprehensive Development

Prince Saud spoke of his joy at inaugurating the closing symposium of the celebration marking KFUPM's 50th anniversary. He congratulated KFUPM's faculty and students on the occasion and for the contributions of this scientific edifice, including educa-



Photos: Mohammed Al Shaikh/MPD

■ HRH Prince Saud ibn Nayif ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud inaugurates the closing symposium of KFUPM's 50th Anniversary celebration in Dhahran.

tional and research output that has played a prominent role in serving the country. "The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud's patronage of KFUPM's 50th anniversary celebrations," he said, "is an acknowledgement of the value of science, a confirmation of our wise leadership's support to educational institutions and an appreciation of an educational institution whose distinguished achievements bring out the role of education in the achievement of comprehensive development. This occasion is an excellent opportunity for a fresh reading of some of KFUPM's achievements on the academic, research and social levels."

He also acknowledged the event's sponsors, and Nasser received a plaque presented to Saudi Aramco for its sponsorship.

Amin Nasser: Partnering for the Future

In his speech "Aspirations for the Next 50 Years : How Industry and Higher Education Must Partner for the Kingdom's Vibrant Future," Nasser said KFUPM can look back with pride on its five decades of achievements and contributions made in education, scientific research and social participation. He added that with its track record of graduating the best engineers and leaders for the oil and gas industry — particularly for Saudi Aramco — KFUPM provided the company with a strategic partner and an important lifeline of talent and competencies.

Nasser noted that with KFUPM's role as a producer and co-producer of research and industrial knowledge, as well as its service to the Saudi economy and society, the university's 50th anniversary represents an opportunity to explore future challenges and mark new achievements in this important stage of the Kingdom's progress toward a knowledge-based society.

"In light of the continuing trend among economies and societies for merging, integration, globalization-based transforming and accelerating IT developments," Al-

Nasser added, "the bar of hopes in the area of economic and human development has risen higher and higher. Those who utilize knowledge will win the race of job creation and contribute to the establishment of industries with large economic returns."

The 21st century challenges and aspirations, Nasser said, require cooperation and integration of resources between the business sector and industry on one hand and universities and research centers on the other. This is especially true for the Kingdom, which requires a new strategic framework to achieve future success.

Nasser said the traditional model for partnership between industry and higher education institutions, which is limited to financial support for research and use of educational outputs, is no longer appropriate to achieve the Kingdom's objectives. Instead, long-term, regulated and sustainable institutional cooperation is best.

Nasser said it is this type of cooperation that can be an important incubator for innovation and economic development, fostering an environment for exchanging knowledge and employing it in the service of the Kingdom's economic development. However, he added, it is not possible to apply a single model to all partnerships between the education sector and industry.

Nasser concluded by suggesting three steps to create stronger, more successful cooperation in such partnerships. He said that first, we should be inspired by successful global experiences that are appropriate in the area of building and activating the social partnership between industry and universities.

Second, we should seek integration between the various parties to guarantee that academic institutions produce results that are appropriate to the markets' need and future aspirations.

Third, the establishment of an effective institutional framework or forum should be considered to oversee such partnerships,

KFUPM in History

- KFUPM was established as the College of Petroleum and Minerals under a royal decree based on a Council of Ministers decision on Sept. 23, 1963.
- On Jan. 27, 1975, it was re-named the University of Petroleum and Minerals.
- On Dec. 24, 1986, it was re-named King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals.
- KFUPM features seven colleges, including the College of Engineering Sciences (and) Applied Engineering, the College of Sciences, the College of Industrial Management, the College of Environmental Design, the College of Computer Science and Engineering, and the College of Applied and Supporting Studies. Hafr Al-Battin's College of Engineering and Community College, as well as the Dammam Community College, are also part of KFUPM.
- About 9,500 students currently study at KFUPM.
- The first class of graduates included four students in the 1971-72 academic year.
- Up to the 2010-2011 academic year, the number of graduates has reached 26,923 graduates.
- Totalling four at the time KFUPM was established, now more than 900 are members of the University's faculty.

comprising high-level officials and technical experts to guarantee the continuity of cooperation between industry and universities.

Globally Renowned Speakers at the Symposium

The symposium featured a number of papers presented by globally renowned speakers. Dr. Joseph E. Aoun, president of Northeastern University in the U.S., presented the paper "Innovation and the Future of Higher Education."

John G. Rice, vice chairman of General Electric, was among those who participated in the panel discussion on "Toward a Multi-Faceted Higher Education System." He was joined by Ziad S. Al-Labban, president of Sadara Petrochemical Co., and Dr. Khaled H. Biyari, senior vice president for Technology and Operations of Saudi Telecommunications Co.

The symposium was attended by more than 300 Saudi Aramco engineers, in addition to a number of company's officials, including: Samir Al-Tubayyeb, vice president for Engineering Services; Khaled Al Buraik, vice president for Petroleum Engineering and Development; Abdulaziz Al-Judaimi, vice president for Power Systems; Zuhair Al-Husain, vice president of Southern Area Oil Operations; Abdulaziz Al-Abdulkareem, executive director of Information Technology; and Khalid Al-Mulhim, general director of Government Affairs.



■ Amin H. Nasser emphasizes the importance of the relationship between industry and educational institutions during a ceremony Oct. 2 celebrating the 50th anniversary of King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals.

Although more than 60 percent of the Khurais workforce is younger than 30, it has produced a remarkable safety record in just a few short years.

Staying Safe in KHURAIS

SCOTT BALDAUF

KHURAIS — During their Oct. 7 tour of Khurais Producing Department facilities, Saudi Aramco executives got an up-close look at how the giant Khurais oil field — and one of the company's newest — has made progress in its safety and environmental record.

Leading the Executive Management Safety Review, company president and CEO Khalid A. Al-Falih praised Khurais's management and its young workforce for their energy and drive for innovation.

"Khurais is still the crown jewel of Saudi Aramco, not just in size but in excellence," Al-Falih told other members of senior management, along with a gathering of Khurais administrators and workers.

Al-Falih highlighted that there were worries if the Khurais workforce, the majority of whom are under the age of 30, would be up to the task of running Khurais, but says all now feel impressed with the record and the speed of construction, the continuous improvements, and the arrows pointing in the right direction, he said, noting that more than 60 percent of the employees at Khurais are below the age of 30.

The numbers are impressive.

Completed in the middle of 2009, Khurais is the largest oil increment to be built in a single phase, and it continues to produce at or near its design capacity of 1.2 million barrels of Arabian Light crude oil per day. Despite the magnitude of activity, Khurais management and personnel have taken key steps to ensure that their work has been done in ways that avoid any safety incident.

In 2013, there have been no fatalities, no lost time injuries, no off-duty injuries, no motor vehicle accidents, no fire incidents and zero major environmental recommendations, Khurais manager Mohammed Al-Sowayigh said in his EMSR performance review. In addition, Khurais has held safety awareness and training sessions for its contractors,



Photos: Abdulaziz Al-Moiweed/MPD

■ Khalid A. Al-Falih turns to listen to Mohammed Al-Muaibed during a walking tour of the Central Processing Facility during Monday's Executive Management Safety Review in Khurais.

which helped in achieving zero contractor injuries for the past three years.

Although there have been no safety events related to the contractors, Al-Sowayigh said that Khurais department continues to carry out a number of measures, including safety prequalification prior to contract award, safety orientation sessions prior to work commencement in the facilities, as well as awareness sessions for work permits, crane lifting and scaffolding on a regular basis. "We consider this a challenging area to ensure contractor employees adhere to all Saudi Aramco safety roles and report injuries if they happen," Al-Sowayigh said.

In his safety moment, Faris Al-Qahtani made it clear why personnel at a remote facility such as Khurais must take safety seriously, both on and off the job. Al-Qahtani spoke of a traffic accident he had on the road from al-Khobar to Khurais last year at a time of low visibility. He shared the lessons he learned from this

experience: don't drive in dusty weather; communicate with your supervisor that you will be delayed; use mass transportation if provided; and always wear a seat belt.

In separate tours of the Central Control Room, the Khurais Central Processing Facility, the Maintenance Shop, the Fire Station, and at a well site in Khurais field itself, executives watched the safety culture of Khurais in action.

The pride of Khurais employees in their work was evident throughout the tours.

In the bus ride to the Central Processing Facility, quality assurance employee Meshal Al-Melhem told executives of his efforts to spread the message of the Accelerated Transformation Program (ATP) as a designated ATP ambassador for the Khurais area.

At a Khurais field well site, Adil Al-Thiyabi and Majed Al-Suwaigh from the Southern Area Production Engineering Department demonstrated new techniques for the use of coiled tubing in the

acid stimulation of water-injection wells.

At the Maintenance Shop, Ahmed Al-Ghamdi and Nader Al-Enezi demonstrated a new tool for keeping pipes aligned during welding. Another Maintenance Shop employee, Khaled Al-Hasan demonstrated how company technicians and engineers identified a deluge pump with a high failure rate and made recommendations to the manufacturer that resulted in a pump that can now operate for two years without failure. It was a recommendation that saved \$120,000 per year. Furthermore, Abdalelah Al-Enzi, a maintenance electrician, demonstrated a training simulator for training young electrical and instrument technicians.

At the Khurais Fire Station, Fire Chief Adnan Al-Kulaib led his staff in a demonstration of highline rescue techniques.

In the Central Control Room, Waleed Al-Dossary demonstrated enhancements to the closed-circuit television cameras, and security officer Mohammed Al-Otaibi showed how surveillance cameras and good procedures and training help Khurais Security Unit to respond quickly and appropriately to any intrusions.

And when it comes to what statistics prove to be one of Saudi Arabia's biggest killer — traffic accidents — Amro Al-Abbasi, a field quality assurance group leader, described a number of driving-related enhancements to Khurais employees' access to mass transportation, including new parking facilities for Riyadh based employees, new modified Saudi Aramco flight schedules, an extra bus service between Riyadh and Khurais, and a new dedicated taxi service based in Khurais. He also briefed

management on the Khurais-area road enhancements and concluded on the impact all of these initiatives have had in minimizing the number of traffic violations and accidents.

Mohammed Abdulmohsin spoke about efforts by Khurais Producing not only to fulfill major networking security compliance but to also proactively exceed current cyber security requirements.

In a walking tour of the Central Processing Facility led by Mohammed Al-Muaibed, he greeted executives and had his staff demonstrate innovations to meet corporate goals of reducing energy and water usage. Ahmed Orfali showed a power-optimizing plan that allows the plant to shut down compressors when possible, an innovation that produces significant savings annually. Similarly, by maximizing steam recovery in the process, engineers were able to produce significant savings.

Eid Al-Hajri from Khurais Operations demonstrated a method for optimizing the reverse osmosis process for ground water. By modifying the water feed direction to the RO plant, Khurais employees reduced the overall amount of water used in the process by 495,000 barrels per year and also produced significant savings in RO membranes and other parts.

In a debriefing session, company executives praised Khurais plant employees for their excellent safety record, process optimization initiatives and innovative ideas.

"I think I could spend hours praising what I have seen," Al-Falih said. "This is due to great leadership. It gives me hope as we drive forward to achieve our goals."



■ At left, Ahmed Orfali gives a presentation on efforts to reduce the energy intensity at Khurais operations. At right, Amro Al-Abbasi describes driving-related enhancements to Khurais employees' access to mass transportation.

First in a Series of Three

PROVIDING FUEL FOR HAJJ

Work teams in Saudi Aramco's Pipelines, Distribution and Terminals, along with others, coordinate a massive job.

By MISHAL AL-QAHTANI

Saudi Arabia's Hajj authorities and Saudi Aramco are gearing up for the arrival of more than 1.3 million pilgrims expected this year.

Between them, the pilgrims will make about 3.3 million trips to the holy sites of Makkah, Madinah and Jiddah, as well as about 4.6 million trips to other holy sites.

Hajj is one of the main five pillars of Islam. The observance is compulsory (Farz) on the part of all healthy, adult and capable Muslim males and females at least once in their lifetime. Hajj is compulsory for those people who have the physical ability to go to Makkah and are capable to bear the cost of the journey after meeting their family expenses until their return.

Hajj is performed with white clothes with no stitches. This is called Ihram. This indicates that all people in the world are equal to Allah. This white cloth also reminds the days after death where people will be buried covered with white cloths with no stitches.

Many Ways to Serve

Saudi Aramco's role in the preparations for such a huge influx of people into Saudi Arabia is pivotal and involves a herculean effort by the company's employees.

Some of the vital services provided by Saudi Aramco are:

- Providing adequate quantities of fuel for vehicles, aircraft, ships and pilgrims' housing.
- Millions of barrels of fuel made available on a daily basis for the transport of pilgrims.
- Early plans and preparations ensure the required quantities of petroleum products.
- Procedures and coordinated efforts reflect Saudi Aramco's attention to efficiency and reliability of supply.

Months before the Hajj season, several Saudi Aramco departments are engaged in a collaborative effort, using all their operating and technical staff to ensure adequate fuel supplies to the immense number of aircraft, trucks, buses and cars that will transport pilgrims and goods, along with all the fuel needed by ships in Saudi ports that provide services to pilgrims.

These work teams must be at their peak in an environment full of challenges, especially with the increase in demand on gasoline and diesel, while still meeting local fuel demand of vehicles and development projects throughout the Kingdom.

Every year, Saudi Aramco guarantees fuel supplies along all highways and land routes that pilgrims travel, to all the national and international airports — especially King Abdulaziz Airport in Jiddah and Prince Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Airport in Madinah — and ship fuel to the Jiddah Islamic Port, in addition to providing the Pilgrims Housing Project in Mina with the kerosene needed for cooking.

Well ahead of Hajj season, employees in many departments are dedicated to making sure all required petroleum products are available and ensuring their distribution and storage. The departments play their roles during the Hajj season through the Western Province bulk plants, in addition to the fleets of trucks transporting petroleum products to airports, ports and gas stations along the high-

Saudi Aramco works hard to provide "sufficient quantities of fuel of all kinds throughout the Hajj season and to provide other government agencies with fuel at all times."

— Mohammed A. Al-Omair, vice president of Pipelines, Distribution and Terminals

ways linking Makkah, Madinah and the other Hajj locations, as well as on highways inside and outside the Kingdom.

Sufficient Supplies

Mohammed A. Al-Omair, vice president of Pipelines, Distribution and Terminals, explained that the company undertakes the responsibility of providing fuel for the Hajj season every year, "working hard to provide sufficient quantities of fuel of all kinds throughout the Hajj season and to provide other government agencies with fuel at all times."

Al-Omair stressed the importance of the joint effort of Saudi Aramco and its customers to achieve excellence and safety in the petroleum supply chain through continuous attention to the company's values and by encouraging local customers to also live up to those values during Hajj season.

He also remarked that during this

major Islamic event, Saudi Aramco is responsible for providing fuel to bulk plants throughout the Kingdom, especially the ones where a large portion of their capacities are allocated to providing for the requirements of pilgrims and to helping the government make the season a success.

Energy Calendar

The Hajj season is divided into three periods in terms of the level of demand on petroleum products:

- The first peak starts at the beginning of the Dhu Al-Qa'dah month of the Hijra calendar (Sept. 7 in 2013) and continues to the 5th of Dhu Al-Hijjah (Oct. 10), a total of 34 days.

- The second period, known as the "Quiet Period" runs from the 6th of Dhu Al-Hijjah (Oct. 11) to the 13th of Dhu Al-Hijjah (Oct. 18), a total of eight days.
- The third period, or "Second Peak Period," begins on the 14th of Dhu Al-Hijjah (Oct. 19) and runs to the 15th of Muharram (Nov. 18), a total of 31 days.

Demand for all petroleum products increases in the Western Province every Hajj season, especially for jet fuel, which reaches its peak during the days of the Hajj season. Early planning and preparations for the Hajj season are a must.

Saudi Aramco Values

Al-Omair notes that Hajj season is a time when the company values come into sharp focus for the employees who work to provide petroleum products during this challenging time:

1. **Excellence:** Teams work to provide high quality petroleum products at the right time and location.
2. **Safety:** Meeting demand and transporting all types of petroleum products requires application of stringent safety measures.
3. **Citizenship:** Through meeting all pilgrims' needs for fuel during and after the Hajj season is one of the best examples of how Saudi Aramco contributes to the Kingdom.
4. **Accountability:** In its efforts in this challenging season, the company bears the



■ Demand for Saudi Aramco's products increases sharply during Hajj, and the company takes pride in its ability to meet that demand reliably.

responsibility to meet commitments it has made in agreements with officials, distributors and customers.

5. **Integrity:** Throughout the supply chain, people inside and outside the Kingdom must operate according to the applied rules, instructions and ethical standards, especially during the Hajj season.

Sultan Nassir, a consultant in the Local Sales Unit in the Western Province, is charged with monitoring the efforts made during Hajj season. He stressed that Saudi Aramco's early efforts and preparations are aimed at facilitating the arrival and departure of pilgrims in the most comfortable way.

"Saudi Aramco concentrates on this goal during the meetings of the Sales Division and the Sales Unit in the Western Province," Nassir said. "These meetings are attended by representatives of all concerned government agencies. Coordination and collaboration are supported among all participants in the meeting, in addition to the representatives of airline companies, marine ships and representatives of the government agencies working in the King Abdulaziz International Airport

in Jiddah."

Nassir also noted that Saudi Aramco, in addition to meeting the enormous demand for petroleum products during the Hajj season, is very keen on maintaining the highest safety and competency standards through careful planning. The team effort to implement those plans builds on the successes of years and years.

Early procedures and preparations that allow Saudi Aramco to achieve its objectives in this peak season include:

- Increasing the storage capacity in all Saudi Aramco bulk plants across the Kingdom. The Western Province alone has 10 bulk plants, ranging from Duba and Tabuk in the north to Jazan and Najran in the south.
- Increasing the volumes of petroleum products allocated to Saudi Aramco's direct customers and immediately responding to customer requests.
- Preparing and testing alternative contingency plans to ensure the continuity of the supply of petroleum products with high reliability in case of any emergency.
- Conducting a preliminary field survey to ensure the readiness of bulk plants and

See story on page 8



Photos: Musleh Khathami/MPD

■ Tackling the logistically challenging work of providing fuel for the Hajj takes an enormous amount of planning and coordination from various groups, divisions and departments in Saudi Aramco.



“The Supply Group conducts research and studies, and it gathers information from government authorities and other agencies concerned in this grand season, which in turn increases the accuracy of expectations for jet fuel, diesel and kerosene.”
— Bandar Fuad Ajba’a

■ The logistics of supplying the fuel needs for Hajj are visually evident with tankers filling up, but as much work or more goes on behind the scenes as company officials survey demand, test their readiness and plan for the most efficient delivery of products to various locations throughout the Western Province.

From page 7

their ability to provide various petroleum products to Hajj cities and the roads leading to them.

- Conducting another field survey that concentrates on the bulk plants that supply vehicles transporting pilgrims with fuel to ensure the availability of petroleum products on national and international highways linking the Kingdom to nearby countries, in addition to the major in-Kingdom highways linking the country’s cities with Makkah, Madinah and Hajj areas. This survey also includes all major stations inside Makkah, Madinah and other Hajj areas.
- Continuous communication with owners and operators of gas stations throughout the Hajj season, and encouraging them to contact Saudi Aramco’s Local Sales representatives to overcome any obstacles they may face in receiving the needed petroleum products, while also providing them with a toll-free number for customer service that operates on a 24-hour basis.
- Constant communication with the concerned local authorities throughout the Hajj season to ensure the availability of petroleum products in gas stations, including field trips to monitor the levels of available fuel and their capacity to meet any emergency increase on demand.
- Supplying the Mina Pilgrim Housing Project with its kerosene needs for cooking.
- Supplying all national and international airports with jet fuel, especially King Ab-

dulaziz International Airport in Jiddah and Prince Mohammed ibn Abdulaziz Airport in Madinah.

- Monitoring the volume of fuel at all power generation plants and water desalination stations belonging to Saudi Electric Co. (SEC) and Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC), respectively, and meeting their needs for petroleum products.

All the preparation and coordination by Saudi Aramco with its customers and state authorities before the Hajj season reflects the company’s continuous focus on excellence and reliability in supplying petroleum products to the local market.

Expected Increases in Demand

As expected, the demand for various petroleum products increased during the pilgrimage season compared to the other months of the year, especially during peak times of the first and second periods.

During the first peak, 1.6 million barrels of jet fuel were provided to all of the Saudi Aramco distribution stations at King Abdul Aziz airport in Jiddah, Yanbu’, north of Jiddah and Madinah.

With regard to diesel fuel and gasoline, 10 million barrels were supplied to consumers during the first peak of the pilgrimage season, which covered gas stations in cities and on main roads in the Western Region leading to Makkah and Madinah and the holy sites, in addition to power and water desalination plants.

It should be noted that Saudi Aramco

was also able to accomplish the task of supplying kerosene for use in the cooking stoves at Mina, where they provided 7,500 barrels for use in the specified cooking areas.

Analyzing Fuel Consumption

Bandar Fuad Ajba’a of the Supply Chain Management Group monitors and analyzes the Western Province’s consumption of petroleum products. Based on the group’s findings, supply quantities for each of the 10 bulk plants on the West Coast are specified.

“In the estimation process, the group relies on correct readings and accurate analysis of consumption during the seasons in the province, especially — and more importantly — the Hajj season,” Ajba’a said. “The Supply Group conducts research and studies, and it gathers information from government authorities and other agencies concerned in this grand season, which in turn increases the accuracy of expectations for jet fuel, diesel and kerosene.”

The group also monitors daily all petroleum products sales operations. Sometimes, the daily monitoring requires adjustments to the bulk plants’ supply plans and coordination with the concerned Saudi Aramco departments to approve those adjustments.

Coordinate Supplies to the Mina Area

Just before the Hajj season, a meeting was held with Mina Area Pilgrims Hous-

ing Project officials to discuss the plans to supply kerosene to the project’s cookeries. The project’s management assigned three specialized local companies to operate and maintain the cookeries. Also, a meeting was held with the Makkah Car Union of the Ministry of Hajj to unveil the Union’s annual plan for transporting pilgrims, and to notify the Union about Saudi Aramco’s plans for supplying the diesel necessary to operate the fleet of buses belonging to the pilgrims’ transportation companies. More than 20,000 buses are expected to transport more than 1.3 million pilgrims during this year’s Hajj season.

Testing the Readiness

To ensure the readiness of all gas stations for the Hajj season, the Local Sales Units in the Western Province conducted a comprehensive survey of all cities and highways leading to Makkah, and the Unit directly contacted the owners of gas stations to open dialogue and find solutions to any obstacles they may be facing. The survey covered Makkah, Madinah, Jiddah, the Hijra Route (Jiddah-Madinah-Makkah), the Jiddah-Makkah-Jiddah Highway, Makkah-Al-Lith-Jiddah, the Holy Sites, the old Jiddah-Makkah road, the Jamum area and all stations en route to Madinah, Makkah, the Taif-Al-Hada road, Taif city, Taif-Riyadh Highway, Radwan-Taif Road and the Sail area.

Also, all gas stations on the land border ports in Tabuk, Jazan and Najran and the roads leading to them have surveyed.



Photos: Mahdi Al Ali/MPD

Warren Wilder, Fayeze Sharef and Rami Busbait (seated, center, from right to left) pose with employees at the 2nd Young Chemicals Forum held Oct. 3 in al-Khobar.

Chemicals PDPs gather at 2nd annual forum

JONNY MULLIGAN

AL-KHOBAR — The second Chemicals Young Talent Forum was held Oct. 3 in al-Khobar.

The annual event brings all the Chemicals PDPs together to discuss strategy and to network with management, mentors and peers. This year's event was marked with interactive presentations on the ATP and chemicals strategy, a video montage of interviews from around the world and an open forum with the management.

In the Chemical Business Coordination and Support Department (CBC&SD), more than 100 young professionals in the fields of marketing, engineering, finance and business are assigned all over the Kingdom and around the world in such varied locations as China, Japan, Singapore, Spain and Belgium.

Warren Wilder, the recently appointed executive director for Chemicals, provided the opening address and welcomed employees who traveled from around the world to the event.

"These are exciting times for Saudi Aramco and all of you in this business. The chemicals and plastics sector is a growing

"The chemicals and plastics sector is a growing and robust business."

— Warren Wilder,
executive director of Chemicals

and robust business," Wilder said. "There is a great future in this industry, which is growing faster than many other parts of the energy sector. You are fortunate to be part of chemicals and the future leaders of our rapidly growing technology based business."

Wilder further emphasized the importance of young professionals who are gaining experience to bolster the future of the chemical business. "We need a large number of Saudi Aramco people that understand the importance of our relationship with the customer. Each one has a name, and they have an aspiration. Having worked with customers throughout the world, I know that they all want three things: quality products, reliable supply and

value," he said. "We, as management, will empower and support our people to be the face of our company in the Kingdom and internationally, people who can respond to the customers' requirements, people who are supported by systems and practices that simultaneously provide control and flexibility."

Talking to The Arabian Sun, Fayeze Al-Sharef, CBC&SD manager, said: "These events are great, and they give me the time to reflect on how much we have achieved over the year. Our business is based on every individual stepping up and taking responsibility for their tasks and delivering on their part of the job. This must be done daily, weekly and yearly. Listening to the presentations and the discussions today, I understand that the younger employees really get this and they are focused securing our business future."

Rami Busbait from Talent Development and Knowledge Management is the driving force behind the PDP program for Chemicals business. "These young people are

the future of our business. At the moment, they are developing their skills by working on various projects across the company and the world. In the near future, they will be coming back to our department," he said. "This event is an opportunity for them to reconnect with each other and build relationships that will enable them to work closely together."

The Young Talents Organizing Committee spent three months designing and presenting the event. The committee comprised Abdulrahman Al-Harbi, Khalid Al-Gimlas, Mohammed Al Suwayed, Fatima Mousa and Amer Al-Bargan.

Presenter Fatima Mousa said the forum was a wonderful opportunity.

"Being part of the organizing team, and specifically designing and presenting the Chemicals Strategy Game Show session at the forum, is indeed a great opportunity for me to have a closer look at the Chemicals strategy and to develop a better understanding of it," Mousa said. "We want this session to be an interactive one where PDPs work together in groups testing how much they know about the Chemicals overall strategy."

Saudi Aramco drilling fluids specialist nominated to API leadership committee

HEATHER BENCE

DHAHRAN — The American Petroleum Institute (API) has nominated Saleh Al-Ammari from the EXPEC Advanced Research Center (EXPEC ARC) as vice chair for the Subcommittee 13 on Drilling, Completion and Fracturing Fluids. His role began in June and continues for three years.

This is the first time for Saudi Aramco to have a Saudi drilling fluids specialist nominated for such a leadership position in API standards committees.

The API Executive Committee on Standardization of Oilfield Equipment and Materials provides leadership in the efficient development and maintenance of standards that meet the priority needs

of the USA and global oil and gas upstream industry. It is divided into several subcommittees addressing specific areas that develop, approve and revise standards and other technical publications.

"As a subcommittee member over the years, it has been a rewarding opportunity to learn more about chemical specifications and develop international standards for the oil and gas industry," said Saleh Al-Ammari, general supervisor of EXPEC ARC Advanced Technology Services Division (ATSD). "As vice chair, I look forward to strengthening the relations between operators, manufacturers and service companies in developing new drilling, completion and fracturing fluids

standards."

Al-Ammari, with more than 15 years of service to the API standards committees is a drilling fluids specialist with ATSD who joined Saudi Aramco in 1992. Al-Ammari holds a B.S. degree in Industrial Chemistry from KFUPM, MS degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Tulsa, 1997, and graduated from the Engineering Services Specialist Development Program as a drilling fluid specialist in 2005. He conducts research studies on drilling, completion and workover fluids and provides technical services to drilling operations. He designs the necessary drilling fluids for oil and gas wells and is consulted for recommendations to solve costly field

drilling fluids related problems.

"Saleh's nomination is a mark of Saudi Aramco leadership and skill sets recognized internationally and is a reflection of the impact our professionals can have on the global standards for the oil and gas industry," said Samer S. Al-Ashgar, EXPEC ARC manager.

Al-Ammari has been an API voting member in Subcommittee 13 since 2004. He is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and the American Chemical Society.

He is also the Saudi Aramco representative in the Gulf Standardization Organization for drilling fluids standards and is the founder of the GCC drilling fluids workshop.



■ Saleh Al-Ammari has been nominated as vice chair for the Subcommittee 13 on Drilling, Completion and Fracturing of the API.

Aramco iExplore looks to spark student interest

HEATHER SAUCIER

HOUSTON — To bolster students' interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics — also known as STEM subjects — Aramco Services Co. (ASC) launched a new program in August called Aramco iExplore. Partnering with the Houston Museum of Natural Science, ASC is working with local elementary students to spark their interest in the energy industry and in engineering and geoscience careers.

"Research shows that getting students interested in math and science at an early age, around 10 or 11, makes a dramatic impact on influencing them to pursue careers in the STEM fields," said Alma Kombargi, supervisor of Branding, CSR and Planning in Public Affairs at ASC. "They are the future generation of employees in our industry."

The program launched in August when teachers from local public schools took part in a one-day workshop at the museum's Wiess Energy Hall, one of the world's most sophisticated energy exhibits. The launch prompted local newspapers and television stations to cover the program.

With the help of guest lecturer Gretchen Gillis, a geological specialist at ASC, the workshop helped increase teachers' knowledge of STEM-related subjects, made them feel more at ease teaching technical material, and provided detailed lesson plans.

Teachers also took a tour of the energy hall — seeing firsthand how oil and gas are extracted from the Earth. They stepped into a

"Geovator," an elevator-like portal that carried them on a simulated trip — complete with noise and jolts — to the bottom of an oil well 7,285 feet deep. On a plasma screen, they viewed various formations and the well bore and, ultimately, they learned how drilling pipes tap into natural resources. Teachers also had a chance to try interactive displays on thermodynamics, gravity and alternative sources of energy.

In a museum classroom, teachers participated in demonstrations developed by ASC and the museum that brought abstract energy concepts to life using magnets, cranks and pulleys.

Later this fall, the teachers will take their fifth-grade students to the museum to learn about careers in energy, perform lab experiments, tour the energy hall and learn about the energy industry from identifying oil and gas in rock formations to the refining process.

"We are hoping these experiences will plant a seed so that when these students are older, they will pursue in-demand professions in the energy industry," said Ali Mutairi, director of Public Affairs at ASC, who helped develop the Aramco iExplore program.

Reports by the U.S. National Science Board show that the number of college students graduating with science and engineering degrees in the United States pale in comparison to those in Europe and Asia. As the world's population continues to grow, new oil and gas discoveries and renewable



■ Above, Aramco Services Co. Geological specialist Gretchen Gillis speaks to local elementary teachers about the many careers in energy. Left, children from Houston-area elementary schools practice lab experiments designed to spark their interest in math and science.

resources will be needed to meet increasing energy demands. To make this possible, scientists and engineers are also going to be in high demand.

"We are really proud to be able to participate in this very important program," said Claire Scoggin, the director of Wiess Energy Hall programming at the museum. "Not only are students getting a boost in subjects that

are the basis for the careers of tomorrow, but so are their teachers."

The Aramco iExplore program is free of charge and expects to educate approximately 500 students and their teachers this school year. A total of 12 classes and combined workshops will be given this school year.

ASC conducted two pilot classes earlier this year in preparation for the August launch.

Job fair stirs interest in Wasit job possibilities

AREF M. YOUNIS

DAMMAM — The Wasit Gas Program Contractors Saudization Job Fair at the Eastern Province Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECCI) attracted more than 8,000 Saudi job seekers.

Those who attended:

■ Provided personal information for job providers.

■ Were able to expedite and streamline their introduction to contractors.

■ Visited company booths designed to present available jobs.

■ Exchanged CVs and credentials.

■ Discussed employment and development opportunities. More than 3,000 applicants who met the job criteria were interviewed on the spot at the Job Fair.

Applicants included academic degree holders, graduates of local and international universities, vocational institutes and others.

The two-day campaign was jointly inaugurated by Bader Al-Dulami, manager of the Wasit Projects Department, Abdulrahman Al-Wabal, Secretary General of the ECC, and Abdulaziz Al-Yousif, head of the Saudi Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF), who welcomed the Saudi Job Campaign Initiative and toured the exhibition accompanied by the Wasit team and the contractor company representatives.

According to Al-Dulami, the initiative aligns with the company's corporate citizenship val-



ues, and the department is taking its cue from the CEO and corporate management expectations that Saudi Aramco should actively lead the Saudization effort with its global and local partners. To do this, the company is capitalizing on the unprecedented scale of capital projects that have created countless opportunities and contributions to the local economy in general, and the Saudi workforce in particular.

Al-Dulami continued, saying, "We took this matter very seriously and revived our momentum that began since the onset of the Wasit Program to make an effective contribution to our country."

In a discussion with the Wasit Project Team, they reflected on past attempts to promote contractor and subcontractor Saudization in company projects.

It was noted that less-conventional methods have been more successful in achieving the desired results.

"We started by conducting surveys with all contractors to identify challenges and obstacles associated with employing, developing and retaining Saudis. Our look into the depths of local business practices and realities showed that most Saudis would not accept working in remote areas for low salaries and incentives offered, therefore, attrition is high," said Fahad Al-Osaimi, business manager of the Wasit Projects Department. "There was a lack of on-the-job training and development programs for Saudis, coupled with the fact that financial difficulties encountered by some contractors hindered them from improving wages and benefits for

local hires."

He noted the Wasit team explored other opportunities to assist contractors in addressing these challenges, such as seeking support from local agencies such as the HRDF. Al-Osaimi said the HRDF was instrumental in supporting the initiative and had extended its full support.

At a global workshop conducted involving all contractors who do business with Saudi Aramco on the Wasit Gas Program, a key message was delivered: Saudization is not only a compliance issue, it is also a broader national cause.

"We explained the positive impact this initiative would have if undertaken seriously by all international and local contractors and the positive outcome it would add to their business within Saudi Arabia. Representatives of HRDF were

also invited to deliver a detailed presentation showcasing their charter and active role in promoting employment locally," Al-Osaimi said.

Saudi Aramco representatives of the Wasit Project and Public Relations Department were available at all times during the campaign to oversee and provide support.

"We wanted to make sure the contractor companies took the lead on the initiative, not only for Wasit, but for any other project they execute on behalf of Saudi Aramco," said Al-Dulami. "This is not the end of this journey, as more work lies ahead as we plan to monitor the implementation of this initiative by conducting periodic follow-up meetings with contractors to gauge the outcomes, discuss training and development plans and seek feedback on Saudi labor assignment."

He added: "We are eager to see this initiative succeed in line with our corporate citizenship values and Saudi Aramco capital and noncapital imperatives to boost the local economy. On the same wavelength, we would like to share our experience with our sister departments in Project Management and extend our full support to conduct similar campaigns for all projects within Saudi Aramco in collaboration with our colleagues at the Local Workforce Expansion and Development under the New Business Development advisory group."



■ From left, VIP delegates listen during a session, HE Abdullahif Al-Othman delivers a keynote address at the event, the Saudi Aramco booth attracts many visitors, and Samir Al-Tubayyeb speaks.

Saudi Aramco sets sights on bright future at MEPEC

EAMONN HOUSTON

MANAMA — Localization and the accelerated development of Saudi human capital and talent will be the key drivers of engineering excellence, economic diversity and sustainability in Saudi Arabia in the years ahead. That was the overriding message at the second Middle East Process Engineering Conference and Exhibition (MEPEC) in Bahrain last week.

The Kingdom and Gulf region also stands on the cusp of a “manufacturing renaissance,” according to HE Abdullahif Al-Othman, governor of the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA).

The conference was held under the theme “Overcoming Future Challenges through Operational Excellence” and attracted delegates from around the world.

With Saudi Aramco as its prime sponsor, more than 1,500 delegates and oil and gas process engineering professionals attended the three-day conference that saw keynote addresses delivered by Abdulrahman F. Al-Wuhaib, the company’s senior vice president of Downstream, Samir Al-Tubayyeb, Saudi Aramco’s vice president of Engineering Services, and Jamal Naboulsi, chief operating officer of the Saudi Aramco Entrepreneurship Center (Wa’ed).

The conference opened with an address by HE Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa, Minister of Finance and Minister in charge of Oil and Gas Affairs for the Kingdom of Bahrain.

He outlined the high importance of process engineering and all of its facets to the oil and gas industry. MEPEC 2013, he said, “has attracted significantly more delegates than the previous conference, which reflects the growing popularity of this event.”

Saudi Aramco was singled out by its senior executive speakers as a catalyst for economic diversity and growth in Saudi Arabia.

Al-Othman said that there had been much talk of a manufacturing renaissance on the western side of the globe fueled by shale oil and gas production but that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are primed for more “tremendous job creation and long-term manufacturing growth than we are seeing in other places.”

“The GCC countries,” he said, “offer an unparalleled, reliable supply of gas and liquid feedstock. They provide unbeatable competitive advantages in location and logistics for exports to Europe, Asia and Africa. Meanwhile, domestic GCC consumer demand is booming.”

Al-Othman said no region in the world could match the investor-friendly business and regulatory environment in Saudi Arabia.

In his keynote address, Al-Wuhaib introduced conference delegates to Saudi Aramco’s Accelerated Transformation Program (ATP). He noted that Saudi Aramco is striving to transform “from primarily a purchaser of technology into a major creator of new technologies. To reach this goal, we plan to increase our research funding fivefold by the year 2020.”

Al-Wuhaib added that the company is also committed to tripling its manpower in science and technology. “This expansion means an abundance of opportunity for motivated process engineers. Eighty percent of our research personnel will be stationed at



Photos: Musleh Khathami

■ Abdulrahman Al-Wuhaib addresses delegates. Saudi Aramco was the prime sponsor of the MEPEC conference.

our headquarters in Dhahran. The balance will staff a global network of new research centers addressed to both upstream and downstream issues,” he said.

The Saudi Aramco executive held up the CO₂ management center in Daejeon, Korea, and fuel solution facilities for advanced engines in Paris and Detroit as examples of the company’s global reach into key areas of research.

“In Cambridge, Massachusetts, our center involving both upstream and downstream business lines will focus on computational modeling and nanotechnology research,” Al-Wuhaib said of the U.S.-based center.

“Let me note two projects currently in the works that should be of particular interest to process engineers. Our downstream research organization is developing a novel process engineering method to increase revenue per barrel by applying unconventional technology to remove sulfur in a crude oil upgrading process. We are also readying a process taking an unconventional liquid hydrocarbon feedstock directly to high-value chemicals,” Al-Wuhaib explained.

In his keynote address, Al-Tubayyeb pointed to three pillars “essential to achieving engineering excellence.” He identified human resources, systems improvements and technology development as the trio of drivers for the future of the company and the Kingdom.

Al-Tubayyeb delivered his address on the first day of the conference on the theme of “Engineering Excellence Pillars and Saudi Aramco’s Localization Program.”

The search for young talent, he said, must be intensified and be a top priority for management, and knowledge transfer between new entrants and outgoing veterans must be enhanced.

“Our workforce constitutes the most important asset that drives our company forward in the path of engineering and manufacturing excellence,” Al-Tubayyeb said.

Collaboration and partnerships at a national and global level are required to face the challenges the oil and gas industry now faces. “Every effort should be exerted to

collaborate with leading businesses, academic institutions, service companies and technology developers to exchange ideas and best practices to help drive excellence,” he said.

Technological innovation, Al-Tubayyeb told the audience, is the pre-requisite for engineering and manufacturing excellence.

“The strategic intent of developing Saudi Aramco’s Research and Development capabilities is aligned with an ambitious goal set as part of the ATP’s 2020 vision. That is, through research and development, Saudi Aramco will deliver leadership technology and establish a flourishing knowledge economy in the Kingdom. By 2020, we want to be as well known for our innovation culture and energy research and technology development capabilities, as we are today for the success of our mega-projects in upstream and downstream operations,” he said, adding that existing relationships with universities in the Kingdom should be further built upon.

Al-Tubayyeb highlighted Saudi Aramco’s Local Manufacturing Development Program and the company’s target to achieve 70 percent of all material procurement needs with locally manufactured goods, doubling the current rate of 35 percent. “We plan to meet this goal through targeted incentives that include priority to local manufacturers for certain bidding opportunities, premiums for new product lines creating jobs for Saudi nationals and long-term purchase agreements providing them with a business stream that fosters their long-term viability.

“We plan to build the capacity of the local supply chain, and we also provide technical support to improve new manufacturers’ technical abilities and bring production up to international standards and specifications,” Al-Tubayyeb said.

He singled out the Saudi Aramco Entrepreneurship Center (Wa’ed) and Saudi Aramco Energy Ventures as examples of how the company is keen to invest in innovation and local human capital for the benefit of the Kingdom.

Wa’ed draws wide interest at MEPEC

EAMONN HOUSTON

MANAMA — The Saudi Aramco Entrepreneurship Center, Wa’ed, attracted a lot of interest at the second MEPEC conference and exhibition.

Jamal Naboulsi, chief operating officer of the Saudi Aramco Entrepreneurship Center (Wa’ed), was a keynote speaker on the subject of “Localization Across the Value Chain.”

Visitors to the Saudi Aramco booth at the exhibition space at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Center heard about Wa’ed’s localization activities in a presentation by Khaled Al-Ghadban.

Naboulsi delivered a presentation before a panel and delegates, detailing how Wa’ed is an integral part of Saudi Aramco’s drive to maximize localization within Saudi Arabia. He described the topic as “complex” before outlining Saudi Aramco and the Kingdom’s joint efforts towards developing local content.



Jamal Naboulsi

“Developing countries have been actively pursuing localization as a means to widen their economic bases. It is important for these countries to diversify away from reliance on hydrocarbon resources,” he said.

Naboulsi said that multinational companies have recognized that globalization is now increasingly achieved through localization. “They are investing in local manufacturing and service industries, and it requires a strong commitment from stakeholders,” he said.

Naboulsi added that a number of entities have a role to play in localization, with government providing local content policies, investment in infrastructure and human resources to create a business friendly environment that attracts Foreign Direct Investment.

Educational and vocational establishments, the private sector and local chambers of commerce, as well as national oil companies, all have a crucial role to play, Naboulsi said.

P&CSD hosts first HIPS CoP meeting

ABDULLAH HASHIM

■ DHAHRAN — The Process and Control Systems Department (P&CSD) hosted the first High Integrity Protection System (HIPS) Community of Practice (CoP) meeting on Sept. 10 at Al-Midra Tower in Dhahran. The event was attended by more than 90 participants, including managers and experts companywide.

In his opening remarks, Hussain Al-Qahtani, P&CSD manager, emphasized the importance of ensuring the maximum safety and security of company resources and assets. "Our mission in P&CSD is to apply our knowledge to maximize the safety and security of company assets," Al-Qahtani said. "Commitment to safety is a core value of Saudi Aramco. Our topic today, 'High Integrity Protection Systems,' is a great example of how we all support this mis-

sion."

The HIPS CoP meeting was designed to promote a two-way dialog with subject matter experts and customers to tackle the important technical challenges facing the company when HIPSs are deployed. The goal of the meeting was to facilitate "Collaboration with Purpose."

As a technical body of engineers that represent multiple professional disciplines, the mission of the Saudi Aramco HIPS CoP was to network the knowledge of individual specialties companywide to ensure the safe and reliable deployment of HIPS.

The use of HIPS are only considered on a case-by-case basis in Saudi Aramco after a thorough and systematic review process controlled by the corporate level HIPS Committee. The HIPS are an assembly of carefully selected and assem-



■ Panelists at the HIPS CoP roundtable included, left to right: Walid Al-Kulaibi, Terminal Maintenance Department manager; Abdulwahhab Al-Alwan, Southern Area Pipelines Department manager; Hussain Al-Qahtani, Process and Control Systems Department manager; Abdullah Al-Ghamdi, Loss Prevention Department manager; Mohammed Al-Qahtani, East West Pipelines Department manager.

bled components that allow continuous monitoring of the process, detection of dangerous levels in pressure, and automatic action to isolate the source of high pressure before dangerous pressure levels are reached.

Presentations at the CoP meeting simulated a workshop environment that allowed HIPS Committee members to interact directly with representatives from project and proponent organizations. Meeting participants represented a di-

verse number of departments and admin areas throughout Saudi Aramco.

The HIPS Committee chairman, Patrick Flanders, senior engineering consultant with P&CSD, said, "The discussions were productive in achieving the goal to clarify the role that each technical specialty represented on the HIPS Committee plays in supporting the evaluation, design and validation of HIPS. Given the active two-way dialog, it was clearly collaboration with purpose."



■ NAISOD staff, including superintendents, shift superintendents and supervisors and other high potential employees pose for a photo at the Ras Tanura Leadership Center after an ATP meeting held there in September.

NAISOD works toward making ATP, 2020 Strategic Intent a reality

MICHELLE PEARSON

■ RAS TANURA — In line with company directives, the Northern Area Industrial Security Operations Department (NAISOD) held a meeting with a number of its staff including superintendents, shift superintendents/supervisors and other high potential employees at the Ras Tanura Leadership Center audio-

rium in September to discuss the Accelerated Transformation Program (ATP).

In his welcoming remarks, acting manager Ahmed H. Al-Ghamdi discussed the history of the company and what the ATP stands for, why it is important to the company and the Kingdom and also what it strives to achieve — namely, the

2020 Strategic Intent for Saudi Aramco to be one of the world's top energy companies. Al-Ghamdi emphasized that the time to act was now to shape the Kingdom's future, adding that knowledge sharing was a key component in making the ATP success.

Ameera H. Al-Hawaj from the Planning and Programs Group in

NAISOD provided a brief overview of the ATP and showed videos that explored the dynamics of the company and the expectations for the company to be the "biggest and best" energy provider in the world. A question and answer session followed.

All division heads received a copy of the slide show in both English

and Arabic, which would enable them to disseminate the presentation to their staff.

Al-Ghamdi closed the meeting by reiterating though Saudi Aramco is changing, the true change will come from each individual. "It's a great opportunity to learn about the future of the company and to inspire our fellow employees," he said.

Dhahran teen earns Eagle Scout honors

ALISON HOOKER

■ DHAHRAN — Australian Kylan Hooker, 16, recently joined his older brother, Liam, in the Eagle's nest at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor held here this past August.

Kylan completed his Eagle Scout project in October 2012 by supervising a team of Scouts to repaint the main meeting room in the Dhahran Women's Group Baker House facility. Being away at boarding school in Scotland presented a challenge in maintaining involvement in Dhahran Troop 1, and it required commitment and application for Kylan to complete the rank requirements and reviews needed for him to finally gain the award.

Kylan's scouting highlights were the camps he attended in the Kingdom and the United States, and he attributes his continued love of outdoor activities to the Dhahran Troop program. His Scouting experiences prepared him well for achieving his

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award at school, and he is now working on gaining the Gold Award. These awards involve challenging community service projects and hiking expeditions.

Scouting has been very much part of the Hooker family life over the last six years, and dad, Nigel, a palynologist within Exploration Technical Services Department, currently serves as a Troop Quartermaster. Kylan was one of 16 Dhahran Scouts to gain the Eagle rank in the 2012-13 session, a remarkable achievement for the troop, and a glowing reflection on the dedication and hard work of the many volunteers involved in the program. However, with a large troop, more volunteers are still needed as some of the stalwarts retire.

Troop leaders urge others to consider how they might get involved by sharing their time and skills through Scouting in developing the citizenship of some of the young men in the community.



■ Kylan Hooker, left, poses with older brother Liam after recently being recognized for achieving Eagle Scout status. The brothers both have earned the Boy Scouts highest honor.



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Saudi Aramco introduces Ithra Knowledge Program

DHAHRAN — Final preparations are under way at Saudi Aramco for the launch of the 2013 Ithra Knowledge Program, which promises to inspire and educate thousands of people from Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province. The event will take place in Dhahran from Oct. 16 to Nov. 28 and is expected to attract about 500,000 visitors.

Serving as a stunning showcase for talents from across the Kingdom and around the globe, the popular program — formerly the Saudi Aramco Cultural Program — is one of the most successful outreach programs in the company's history. Developed in conjunction with Saudi Aramco's King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture, the Cultural Program welcomed 2 million visitors Kingdomwide in 2012. "Saudi Aramco realizes its social responsibility in the service of the country is not restricted to managing natural resources but extends to supporting the national efforts concerned with the development of human resources and the building of a knowledge society," said Mohammed Al-Qahtani, vice president of Saudi Aramco Affairs. "We are extremely proud of this program."

The 2013 Ithra Knowledge Program builds on past successes and on Saudi Aramco's efforts to enhance the cultural enrichment of the country for future generations. This year's focus on knowledge also contributes to the implementation of the newly announced national strategy designed to transform Saudi society into a knowledge society.

A new exhibit on 101 Inventions That Changed the World, original home-grown and international performances and an engaging learning exhibit featuring carefully selected art masterpieces — includ-

ing a Picasso — from the world-renowned Centre Pompidou of France are inspiring highlights of the 2013 program.

Additional attractions include exhibits such as interactive shows exploring Islamic and Arab scientific heritage, the Energy Efficiency Pavilion and the Traffic Safety Village for teaching children the rules of safe driving — all designed to contribute to enhanced knowledge, safety and family enrichment.

Families and children, including 30,000 visiting school children, will enjoy the hands-on kids' Traffic Safety Village, children's art contest, kids' energy activities and the 1001 Inventions ("World of Light") interactive experience.

More than 500 volunteer opportunities will help local boys and girls acquire valuable knowledge and management and life skills.

After its six-week run in Dhahran, the Ithra Knowledge Program will continue in various regions in the Kingdom.

Note: The Dhahran program runs from Oct. 16 to Nov. 28 from 5 to 10 p.m. daily. For events, parking and site location information, visit www.ithraknowledge.com.

Key Events

• **Centre Pompidou Mobile Art Exhibit:** This first-ever international art exhibition will show 20 original artworks brought to Saudi Arabia by France's famed Centre Pompidou in cooperation with the Cultural Center. For the first time in the Kingdom, 20 top modern art masterpieces — many of them designed to stimulate discussion — will be displayed, including works by Picasso and Olafur Eliasson. This is the first time the prestigious Pompidou Centre has brought its mobile exhibition to the Middle East.

• **101 Inventions that Changed the World:** This new, unique, immersive and highly interactive exhibition focuses on the top 101 Inventions as selected by a respected panel of experts. All inventions are showcased in a dynamic countdown from No. 101 to No. 1.

• **Traffic Safety Village:** This newly expanded attraction will educate youth on responsible driving techniques and allow them to apply their new knowledge, using battery-operated cars in a simulated city environment. The village (formerly the popular Traffic Safety Park) reflects Saudi Aramco's focus on creating awareness and forming positive behaviors at an early age and is created in cooperation with the company's Eastern Region Traffic Safety Council.

• **1001 Inventions and the World of Light:** The producers of last year's "1001 Inventions" introduce a new, first-of-its-kind, interactive experience, uncovering the inspirational journey of young Arab scientists 1,000 years ago. The show explores the scientific heritage inspired from the Islamic civilization and its innovative pioneers, and it contributes to fostering the cultural identity and promoting dialogue between the Islamic Arab civilization and world civilizations.

• **Energy Efficiency Pavilion:** This new interactive exhibition addresses the importance of energy and the necessity of reducing consumption and avoiding energy waste. The Pavilion was developed in cooperation with the Saudi Energy Efficiency Program and is in line with the company's vision for 2020 toward building a deep social awareness directed toward safety and reducing energy consumption, which constitutes a major na-

Key stats

- **500,000:** Visitors expected to visit the 2013 program
- **500:** Volunteers gaining valuable work-related experience
- **20,000:** Area school children and youth gaining valuable experiences and hands-on learning.
- **20:** Top modern works of art, never-before-seen in the Kingdom

tional challenge.

• **Children's Art Contest:** This year's theme, "Let's Green It," inspires children to draw pictures related to issues such as air pollution, recycling and green planting. The contest for children ages 6 to 12 is designed to educate and remind children and families of their responsibility to protect their environment.

• **School visitation:** A comprehensive school visitation program will create an educational and inspiring experience for children and youth, bringing the "learning through play" concept to teachers and children and introducing the benefits of educational exhibits and museums. The program is expected to educate 800 students daily, targeting 30,000 area students in all.

• **Live performances:** An inaugural temporary theater hall will accommodate lectures and creative shows for all ages, selected and produced in line with the values and aspirations of the Kingdom and highlighting the cultural diversity in the country and the world. The hall will also host the new iRead Competition, one of the core programs within Saudi Aramco's iThra Youth Initiative.

Our esteemed partners: 1001 Inventions; Pompidou Centre; Saudi Energy Efficiency Center (Kafa'a); Grande Exhibitions (101 Inventions).

DHAHRAN

WARM BODIES, starring Teresa Palmer, Rob Corddy (comedy horror, PG-13) – Oct. 11, 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 12, 8 p.m.

BEAUTIFUL CREATURES, starring Alice Englert, Jeremy Irons (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 11, 8 p.m.; Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m.

PROMISED LAND, starring Matt Damon (drama, R) – Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m.

UPSIDE DOWN, starring Kirsten Dunst, Jim Sturgess (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 13, 8:30 p.m.

TURBO, (animated, PG) – Oct. 15 and 17, 10:30 a.m.

PERCY JACKSON, starring Logan Lerman (adventure, PG) – Oct. 15, 10:30 a.m.; Oct. 16, 18 and 23, 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 17 and 19, 8:30 p.m.; Oct. 20 and 24, 8 p.m.

DIANA, starring Naomi Watts (biography, PG-13) – Oct. 15, 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 16 and 18, 8:30 p.m.

TOM WA JIMMY, starring Hany Ramzy (Arabic comedy) – Oct. 15, 8:30 p.m.; Oct. 16 and 18, 1 p.m.; Oct. 17, 19 and 24, 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 23, 8 p.m.

‘UDHAILIYAH

WRECK IT RALPH, (animated, PG) – Oct. 10 and 12, 5 p.m.; Oct. 11, 8 p.m.

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS, (animated, PG) – Oct. 10 and 12, 8 p.m.; Oct. 11, 5 p.m.

JACK THE GIANT SLAYER, starring Nicholas Hoult, Stanley Tucci (animated, PG-13) – Oct. 13, 17 and 19, 5 p.m.; Oct. 16 and 18, 8 p.m.

QUARTET, starring Maggie

Smith, Michael Gambon (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 13, 17 and 19, 8 p.m.; Oct. 16 and 18, 5 p.m.
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES, (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 20 and 24, 5 p.m.; Oct. 23, 8 p.m.
WARM BODIES, (comedy horror, PG-13) – Oct. 20 and 24, 8 p.m.; Oct. 23, 5 p.m.

ABQAIQ

THE GUILT TRIP, starring Barbara Streisand, Seth Rogen (comedy, PG-13) – Oct. 10 and 12, 5 and 7:30 p.m.

BROKEN CITY, starring Mark Wahlberg, Russell Crowe (drama, R) – Oct. 11, 5 and 7:30 p.m.

LES MISERABLES, starring Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 13, 17 and 19, 5 and 7:30 p.m.

CLOUD ATLAS, starring Tom Hanks, Halle Berry (drama, R) – Oct. 16 and 18, 5 and 7:30 p.m.

DIANA, (biography, PG-13) – Oct. 20 and 24, 5 p.m.; Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.

TURBO, (animated, PG) – Oct. 20 and 24, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 23, 5 p.m.

NAJMA

G.I. JOE RETALIATION, starring Dwayne Johnson, Channing Tatum (action, PG-13) – Oct. 10 and 12, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.
THE CROODS, (animated, PG) – Oct. 11, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.
BROKEN CITY, (drama, R) – Oct. 16 and 18, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.
THE GUILT TRIP, (comedy, PG-13) – Oct. 17 and 19, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.
LES MISERABLES, (drama, PG-13) – Oct. 23, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.
CLOUD ATLAS, (drama, R) – Oct. 24, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m.

Each row, column and 3-by-3 square must contain only one of each digit, from 1-9.

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3 Band booster
 4 Fig. that rarely exceeds 4
 7 "Drive for show, ___ for dough":
 9 golf adage
 11 Steam whistle sound
 15 Fútbol cheer
 18 Rapper Big ___
 19 Sinuous swimmer
 20 Cross letters
 21 They may be even or long
 22 106-Across rival, for short
 23 Italian dressing herb
 25 ESPN datum
 26 James Joyce accessory
 28 Nearly 40 inches
 29 Masseur's bottleful
 31 End-of-missive extras, for short
 32 Scope opening?
 33 Fly, in fly-fishing
 34 Bearded impressionist
 37 "The Art of War" author
 39 Montreal-based shoe retailer
 40 Mountaineer's tool
 41 Mogul-dodging path
 43 Brutal
 45 Evil-smelling
 47 "Not interested"
 49 Near East product
 53 Poetic monogram
 54 Evening affair
 55 Sound-activated infomercial gadget
 56 It's a real knockout
 58 Webmaster's code
 59 circus
 60 "___ Shoes":
 2005 Cameron Diaz film
 61 Abstains from
 64 Monet subject
 65 It may be a sign of chilling
 68 O'Hara home
 70 Construction site signs
 72 Moon-related phenomena
 73 Postgame postmortem
 74 Gorbachev's land: Abbr.
 75 Perfume, as at High Mass
 76 Parts of some baby splits
 78 Laundry supply

81 2012 Stanley
Cup champs, initially
82 Swatch, e.g.
84 Port of Crete
85 It can be used
in dating
87 Baseball teams
88 Ducked down, say
89 Some IRAs
91 Some hieroglyphic
squiggles
94 Top parts
98 "Call me"
102 "It's All Coming
Back to Me Now"
singer
103 Grimm menace
104 Maple yield
105 Plays guitar
chords, in a way
106 Atlanta-based
airline
107 Sandwich order
109 Flimsy
110 Biweekly stub,
perhaps
112 Some summer
113 "Sometimes you
feel like ..."
114 Let use for now
115 Fruity quencher
116 Post-op stop
117 Retreat
118 Welcome center
offerings
119 Work measures
120 Go-ahead
121 Talk Like a
Pirate Day mo.
DOWN
1 Los Alamos test
subjects, informally
2 Wells' island doctor
3 Baker's container
4 Transmission
selection
5 Pocket protector
insert
6 Tropical hi
7 Flower part
8 Not yet shared
9 Peter Sellers film
that began production
after his death
10 Spine line
11 Figure skate

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12 Epic with a trip
home to Itasca
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the sound of music?
16 Game with
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35 Missing person?
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38 "Valley Girl"
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Frank or Moon
42 Toronto-to-D.C. c
44 35mm shooter
46 They're often
email addresses
48 TV prototypes
49 Law gp. in red
serge tunics

50 "The Life ____":
 "Mary Poppins" tune
 51 Leadership
 nucleus
 52 Swamps
 54 Cause of eyelid
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 57 What one may
 be taken for?
 58 "I'm sorry, Dave"
 speaker of sci-fi
 60 Moths with
 colorful eyespots on
 their hind wings
 61 CD precursors
 62 Prima ____ case
 63 Euro forerunner
 65 Spout
 66 Boston Garden
 legend
 67 Convane
 69 Cathedral part
 71 Nominees for
 them are announced
 in January
 73 Rodeo performer
 75 Brooch fastener
 76 Texter's "Don't

go there!"
77 Barmaid, to the
Bard
78 Learning ctr.
79 Pickup feature
80 Guam Air Force base
83 "To recap ..."
85 Anger
86 Rock bottom
90 1994 Olympic gold
medalist skater Baiul
92 Piano part
93 Hits with force
95 Award-winning
sci-fi writer Connie
96 Perceive
97 Buy quickly
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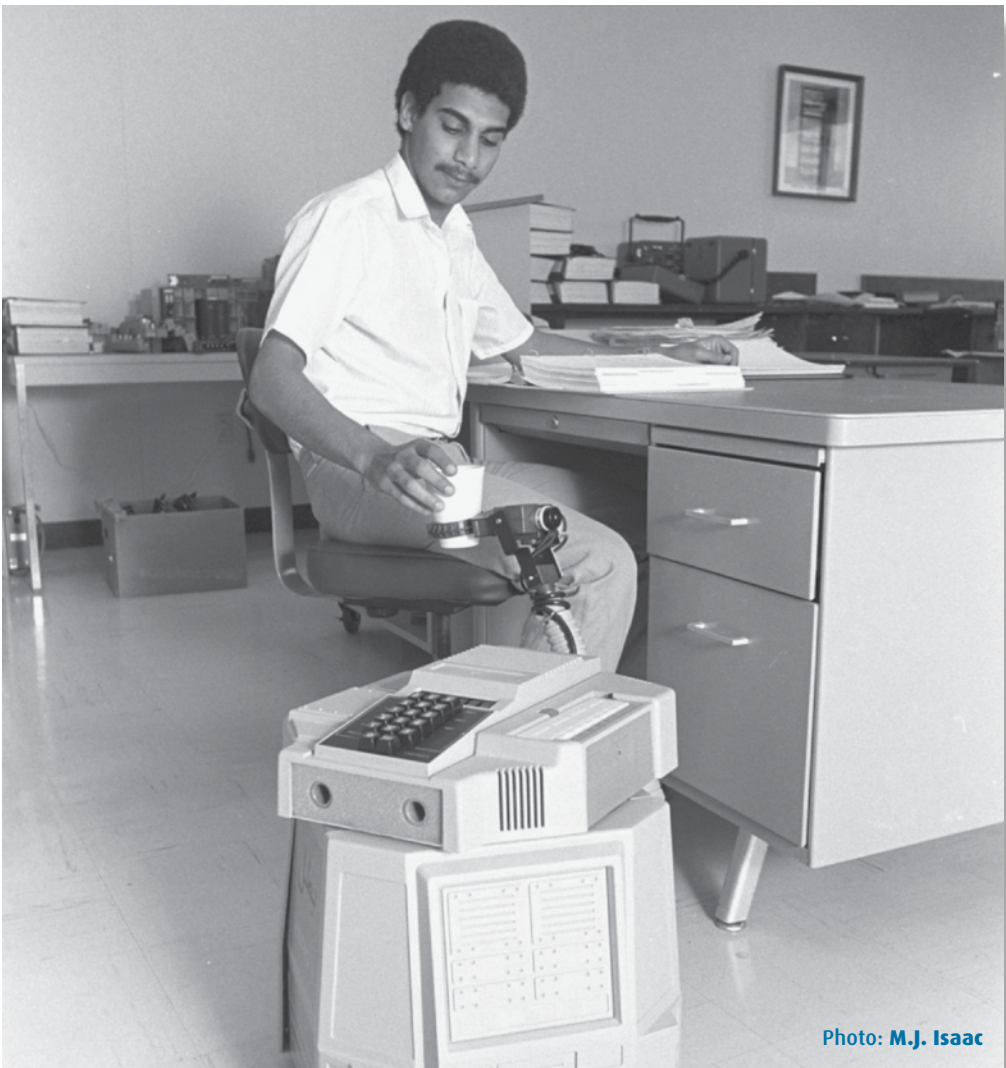


Photo: M.J. Isaac

In 1983, summer students of Aramco's Field Engineering Division in Abqaiq and Ras Tanura were instructed to put together a self-moving, three wheeled, one-armed robot named "Hero I." The goal of the project was to teach students practical computer programming. The robot was capable of sensing light and sound, turning on a light in the evening and turning down a TV's volume.

Win to Lose brings lessons, healthy hints

JESSICA WEIRMIER
DHAHRAN — While the outside temperatures may be cooling off around the Dhahran community, things are definitely heating up in the recreation service’s Lose to Win Contest.

Since May, nearly 200 women of Aramco’s Dhahran community have been vying for bragging rights during the inaugural Lose to Win weight loss contest sponsored by the Dhahran Recreation Services Division. Over a six month period, we are learning how to change our unhealthy lifestyle habits to become ambassadors of healthy living.

And it’s working. By cutting calories and fat grams, and consistently exercising, we are collectively shedding many unwanted kilograms. For myself, I am very close to hitting the 7 percent weight loss goal that was set out for me. I only have about 1 kilogram left to lose!

But losing weight has been just one small success from taking part in the Lose to Win contest. I am learning how to change my eating habits. I have learned to replace fatty, fried foods with grilled meats and vegetables. I have learned to kick the ice cream addiction and replace it with a love of fresh fruits and yogurt. I have learned to find 30 minutes for exercise five times a week.

I’ve also learned that these things aren’t difficult to do, and I’m not alone in that discovery.

During a weekly lifestyle coaching session given to contestants, we heard how profound the changes are for some women in the program. One woman has admitted that she can’t eat fatty foods anymore; her body simply rejects it. And although we are competing with each other to see which group loses the most weight during the contest, during our coaching sessions we all share tips and tidbits for making this lifestyle change work.

Eating out is a biggie when trying to lose weight and become healthier. After all our summer travels, we shared with each other how we overcame the hurdle that eating at restaurants creates. One woman told us she was very careful to control her portion sizes when eating out, being sure to take home what she didn’t eat during her meal.

It was also suggested that when you order your meal, ask the server to bring a takeaway container along with the food. This way, you can immediately set aside your appropriate portion size. Another piece of advice was to choose grilled items rather than fried foods. If it isn’t offered as a menu option, be sure to ask for the meal to be grilled.

The message during the lifestyle coaching session was that when eating out, or going to friends’ homes for meals, we should still enjoy ourselves and enjoy life, but to be careful about how we do it.



■ This tasty treat uses egg whites to help reduce the fat and calorie content.

Why not make a Low-Fat Cheese and Vegetable Omelet?

SAMSO HEALTH EATING ADVISORY BOARD

This full flavored, aromatic and tasty omelet is rich in fiber, protein, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. To create a low cholesterol version, simply replace the whole eggs with egg whites, as egg yolk is rich in cholesterol.

People with diabetes can consume it as one portion of protein at breakfast or snack. Low-fat Cheese Vegetable Omelet is a healthy dish for children, pregnant and lactating women and seniors. It is not recommended to be served for babies below 1 year of age or people with egg or milk allergies.

Ingredients:

- 1-1/2 cups mixed fresh chopped vegetables, (tomato, onion, green pepper, zucchini)
- 2 whole eggs and 4 egg whites
- 1/2 teaspoon canola oil
- 4 tablespoons of shredded low fat cheddar cheese
- Black pepper to taste

Preparation:

- Beat eggs together in a bowl.
- Heat oil in a non-stick skillet, add chopped vegetables, and cook until tender then remove and set aside.
- Add the egg mixture and cook for 4 minutes.
- Top up one half of the omelet with the vegetable filling and sprinkle with shredded low fat cheese.
- Fold one half of the omelet over filling by using a spatula.
- Sprinkle shredded low fat cheese on top, cover and cook for additional 1 minute.

• Yield: 6 servings.

• **Service:** Serve with whole wheat bread, slices of tomato and cucumber and a fruit salad or 1 cup of unsweetened fruit juice to make it more balanced and nutritious.

Fat and calorie contents:

- Calories per serving: 80
- Fat per serving: 3 grams

Bulletin Board

Dhahran Oasis Quilt Guild: There is no program for Oct. 14 and 15. If you are a quilter or are interested in learning the art of quilting, join us at the quilt house on Mondays from 1-3 p.m. or Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. The next class in the series of Introduction to Quilting Classes will be on Oct. 20, “Hand and Fusible Applique” from 6-7:30 p.m. For more info, e-mail doqgclasses@hotmail.com.

Sports

Dhahran Road Runners Club (DRRC): The DRRC is sponsoring a triathlon, (500 meter swim, 20 km bike and 5 km run) on Friday, Nov. 1. A short course event (250 meter swim, 5 km bike and 1 km run) will be held at the same time for those ages 15 and younger. Registration will be in the Hills Pool parking lot on Riyadh Boulevard between 6:45 a.m. and 7-10 a.m. The event will be open to individuals or teams and will start at the Dhahran Hills Pool at 7:30 a.m. The entry fee will be SR50 per person for individual and team entrants. All competitors will receive a free T-shirt. Entry forms are available by email from Trevor Lewis, trevor.lewis.1@aramco.com.

Medical/SAMSO

To comment on this information, issued by Medical, please email Jacqueline.Mullen@aramco.com. Telephone contacts have been provided below, where possible, for dependents and retirees. Employees are encouraged to access medical information online:

- myhome Corporate Portal: <http://myhome> > my information > Medical
- Calendar of SAMSO Events: <http://samso> > Health Education > Calendar of SAMSO Events > Campaigns / Lectures and Webinars / Programs for more information or to register for activities.
- News from Medical online: <http://samso> > Announcements: What’s New in SAMSO.
- Wellness 2013 annual conference Nov. 5 and 6. Saudi Aramco employees, attend the conference for a chance to win

fabulous prizes and learn more about a wellness lifestyle. Register online <http://samso> > Wellness program.

- Quit Smoking! SAMSO offers help to all employees, dependents, retirees and contractors to quit smoking. For info, visit <http://samso> > Health Education > Smoking Cessation Program (quitwell) or email us at SmokingCessation@aramco.com.

Safety Message: For your children’s safety, please look after your children in or around hospital facilities, while attending an appointment or visiting others.

SAMSO registered patients for All Areas

- **Appointments:** Make, cancel and more medical services on the Corporate Portal <http://myhome> > myInformation > Medical to make and cancel appointments, access medication information (process refills; request refills; renewal prescription from physicians; check request status; and access drug information); change medical providers; access the latest recorded results for cholesterol, blood glucose levels, hemoglobin levels; obtain immunizations records and blood group certificates; release of medical information; no-show history; dental bill; and maintain SMS reminders details. (SMS reminders are sent 48 hours in advance of the appointment date to all patients registered for the service who booked an appointment 48 hours or more before the appointment date.)
- **Centralized Contact Center:** To access multiple medical services call 800-305-4444. Select 1 for English or 2 for Arabic, and when prompted, press 1 to make and cancel appointments, select or change your physical, 2 for Pharmacy, 3 for Medical Customer Service Network (MCSN), four for Medical Liaison Office, 5 for Health-line (2-3 minute health related prerecorded messages in 33 categories), or 6 for a patient room. If you do not make a choice after three attempts, you will be put through to a customer service representative. The automated service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Customer service representatives are available during working hours. This service also allows customers to update their contact information as well as leave physician consultation messages. Out-of-Kingdom call +966-13-877-3888. The system will connect directly to the SAMSO Centralized Contact Center so that the caller can select their options.
- **Dental appointments:** Employees can now make appointments online at <http://myhome> > myInformation > Medical > Medical Appointments > book a

dental appointment. Dependents call 800-305-444 for an appointment.

- **Feeling Stressed?** Have psychological, emotional, or social problems that you need help with? SAMSO registered patients contact the Community Counseling Clinic (CCC) at 013-877-8400 during regular working hours to make a confidential appointment in Dhahran. Employees can view <http://samso> > A-Z Services > Mental Health website for more information on services offered.
- **Help with your health care:** MCSN provides multilingual staff to assist Saudi Aramco patients with their health care related concerns and issues. Employees who are unable to find a resolution through normal channels may contact MCSN online <http://samso> > A-Z Services > MCSN. Dependents and retirees can email MCSN@aramco.com or call: In-Kingdom 800-305-4444, out-of-Kingdom +966-13-877-3888.
- **SMS Reminder:** Never miss a medical/dental appointment again. Register for the SMS reminder service. Update your mobile number on the Corporate Portal at <http://myhome> > myInformation > Medical > “Maintain SMS Reminder Details.” Dependents may call the Central Registration Office at 877-3888 to activate or deactivate the SMS reminder services and update a mobile number.

Medical Designated Facilities Department (MDFD) Registered Patients:

- **Help with your health care:** MCSN provides multilingual staff to assist Saudi Aramco patients with their health-care related concerns and issues. Employees who are unable to find a resolution through normal channels may contact MCSN online <http://samso> > A-Z Services > MCSN. Dependents and retirees can email MCSN@aramco.com or call: In-Kingdom 800-305-4444, out-of-Kingdom +966-13-877-3888. MCSN also provide the **Urgent Health Care Access Help Line for MDF Patients.** Call 055-600-0468. Available only after 4 p.m. for urgent health care matters that are life threatening, (e.g., where a patient needs a transfer from one hospital to another hospital for an emergency procedure or service that the MDF hospital does not provide). When an issue is not urgent, please call 800-305-4444.

- **Make a medical, dental or mental health appointment:** View the MDF list of contacts and website links on <http://samso> > Hospitals and Clinics Contacts > MDF.

Abqaiq

- **Urgent care clinic** service is available 24 hours a day through EMS during the ‘Id holiday.

SAMSO Wellness Mile, Well People 2020 and Well Family 2020 Conference

All employees and their families are invited to attend the SAMSO Wellness Mile, Well People 2020 and Well Family 2020 Conference. The Wellness Mile will be 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 1 at the Dhahran Hills Track. Races will be held every 15 minutes. Participate to challenge yourself to a higher standard of health, set a personal goal of running every day, have fun with your family and set a wellness example for your family and friends. The mile is a perfect length to test elite athletes’ speed and stamina or beginner’s to get a feel for the joy of running. T-shirts will be given to the first 600 participants, and the first three finishers in each race will receive a gold, silver or bronze medal. At 4 p.m., members of the SAMSO Wellness Running Group will take part in three heats of the mile race. There is no preregistration. For info, call Charles Bradford at 874-5079 or email charles.bradford@aramco.com.

Wellcare Strategy Conference: The Well People 2020 Conference will be 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 5 and 6 at North Park III Auditorium under the theme “Journey to Health.” It will be followed by the Well Family 2020 Conference on Nov. 8 and 9 from 4-10 p.m. For more info on either of these events, email sawellness@aramco.com.

Al-Hasa

- **Dental:** Patients from al-Hasa should go to Abqaiq or ‘Udhailiyah dental clinics.
- **Urgent care clinic** operating hours during the ‘Id holiday are 7 a.m.-11 p.m.
- **Dhahran**
- **Blood Bank** is accepting blood donations from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays to Thursdays. To register, call the Blood Bank at 13-877-6770/6638 during regular working hours or register online <http://samso> > A-Z Services > Blood donation.
- **Campaign:** “Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign” Oct. 22 at Dhahran Health Center main entrance 4-8 p.m.; Oct. 29 Al-Midra Tower 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **“Walk with a Doc”:** Oct. 29, a lunch-time walking session will be held 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to raise awareness about breast cancer.
- **MCSN:** Contact us with your health care related concerns call 800-305-4444. MCSN drop-in Offices: Dhahran Health Center, Building 61 (Specialty area) and Building 50 (Primary Care) 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Thursday. MCSN in EMS is operational after Saudi Aramco regular working hours and is for emergency cases only.
- **Pregnancy Tour the Mother and Baby Unit (3H):** The tour is designed to prepare for the delivery of your child. You must be 30 weeks or more into your pregnancy. Tour starts at 1 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Employees please register online at <http://samso> > Calendar of SAMSO Events > Programs > Tour of Mother and Baby Unit. Dependents please email nesreen.fares@aramco.com to register your place.

- **Urgent care clinic** operating hours during the ‘Id holiday are 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

Ras Tanura

- **Urgent care clinic** service is available 24 hours a day through EMS during the ‘Id holiday.

‘Udhailiyah

- **Urgent care clinic** service is available 24 hours a day through EMS during the ‘Id holiday.

SAEA

The **SAEA Trip to Shaybah**, scheduled for October 25, has been canceled due to renovation of the Upper Tent. Shaybah management is not allowing visitors at this time for safety reasons. We apologize for any inconvenience. Tickets currently on sale for: Coach to Bahrain’s City Center every Saturday, An Evening at the Movies, Sparky’s Entertainment Center, Al Rashid Entertainment Center, RamRoma Land at Venecia Mall in al-Khobar and Marina Mall in Dammam, Lost Paradise of Dilmun Water Park in Bahrain. **SOLD OUT:** Hofuf Dairy Farm and Caves (Oct. 12). Tickets are on sale for the following: Rock Classic (Oct. 25); Fungo (Oct. 26); “We Got Talent” auditions sign-up through Oct. 31; Ticket sales begin on Oct. 6 for “Discover Arabia — Riyadh” (Dec. 5-7); Dec. 31 in Bahrain at the Crowne Plaza. Download the SAEA Dateline newsletter at <http://sharek/orgs/30002961/Self%20Directed%20Group/Documents/Dhahran/Special%20Interest%20Groups/SAEA/dateline.pdf>. The SAEA office at 1424 King’s Road is open for ticket sales 3-5 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. For more information on the above events, contact the SAEA office at 872-0117.



**The joy
of 'Id is worth a
safe minute**

Please follow these safety instructions before driving:

- ☞ Make sure tires, windows, wipers, mirrors, and lights are clean and in good condition.
- ☞ If you are alone and feel tired or sleepy during long distance trips, park your vehicle away from traffic. Look for a safe place and take a 15-20 minute nap. If you aren't alone, ask your passenger to continue driving.